



Safe Communication of Medication Information

DO NOT USE:	USE INSTEAD:
OD, QD, Q1D (for once daily)	Daily
QOD	Every other day
D/C	Discharge or Discontinue
HS, hs, qhs	Half Strength or Bedtime
TIW	3 times weekly
SC, SQ, sub q	Subcut or subcutaneously
OD, OS, OU	right eye, left eye, each eye
AD, AS, AU	right ear, left ear, each ear
Per os	PO, by mouth, or orally
U, iu	Units
µg	mcg
cc	mL
ss	Sliding scale or one-half (1/2)
SSRI, SSI	Sliding Scale (Regular) Insulin
Drug name abbreviations (eg MS, MSO4)	Do not abbreviate (eg Morphine sulphate)
Trailing zeros (eg X.0 mg)	X mg
Lack of leading zero (eg .Xmg)	0.Xmg

For More Information Please Refer to Medical Pharmacies' Pharmacy Policy & Procedure Manual for LTC Homes, policy 3-9 and ISMP's List of Error-Prone Abbreviations, Symbols, and Dose Designations

March 2010